IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended)   A hybrid telecommunications switch apparatus comprising:

one or more circuit switch fabrics;~

one or more packet switch fabrics;~

a controller configured to,

examine a SONET/SDH path overhead byte to determine which of said circuit switch fabrics or packet switch fabrics types to route the traffic to;

dynamically allocate circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic in order to route such traffic to athe packet switch fabric based on said examination; and

to route telecommunications traffic to one or the other of the said circuit or packet switch fabrics based on said examination.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the overhead byte is a C2 overhead byte.

5.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the circuit switch fabric is a synchronous transport signal (STS) crossconnect.

6.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the packet switch fabric is configured to switch internet protocol (IP) or asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) traffic.

7.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of circuit switch fabrics.

8.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to examine a path overhead byte associated with received traffic and to thereby determine whether the traffic is ATM, IP, or STM traffic.

9.   (Cancelled)

10.   (Cancelled)

11.   (Currently Amended)   A method of switching telecommunications traffic in a hybrid switch including a circuit switch fabric, a packet switch fabric, and a controller, the method comprising the steps of:

(A) provisioning the circuit switch fabric for IP, ATM, and circuit traffic,

(B) examining a SONET/SDH path overhead byte to determine whether received traffic is IP, ATM, or circuit traffic, ~~and~~

(C) dynamically allocating circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic in order to route such traffic to ~~a packed~~ the packet switch fabric based on said examination, and

(D) switching the received traffic in ~~a~~ the packet or circuit switch fabric s in response to the examination of step (B).

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1~~3~~ wherein the overhead byte is a C2 overhead byte.

15.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 14 wherein the step (~~C~~D) of switching comprises the step of:

(~~C~~D1) the controller directing ATM traffic to a packet switch fabric.

16.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 14 wherein the step (~~C~~D) of switching comprises the step of:

(~~C~~D2) the controller directing IP traffic to a packet switch fabric.

17.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 14 wherein the step (~~C~~D) of switching comprises the step of:

(~~C~~D3) the controller directing traffic that is neither ATM or IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

18.   (Cancelled)

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently Amended)   A hybrid telecommunications switch apparatus comprising:

one or more circuit switch fabrics~~-~~;

one or more packet switch fabrics~~-~~;

a controller configured to,

examine traffic overhead information to determine which of said ~~switch fabric types~~ circuit switch fabrics or packet switch fabrics to route ~~the~~ traffic to;

dynamically allocate circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic to route such traffic to ~~a~~ the packet switch fabric based on said examination, and

to route telecommunications traffic to one ~~or the other~~ of the said circuit or packet switch fabrics based on said examination,

wherein the overhead information comprises a SONET/SDH path, C2 overhead byte.

21.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the circuit switch fabric is a synchronous transport signal (STS) crossconnect.

22.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the packet switch fabric is configured to switch internet protocol (IP) or asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) traffic.

23.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a plurality of circuit switch fabrics.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the controller is further configured to examine the path overhead byte to determine whether the traffic is ATM, IP, or STM traffic.

25.   (Cancelled)

26.   (Cancelled)

27.   (Previously Presented)   A method of switching telecommunications traffic in a hybrid switch including a circuit switch fabric, a packet switch fabric, and a controller, the method comprising the steps of:

provisioning the circuit switch fabric for IP, ATM, and circuit traffic,

examining a SONET/SDH path, C2 overhead byte to determine whether received traffic is IP, ATM, or circuit traffic,

dynamically allocating circuit switch resources to ATM and IP traffic to route such traffic to a packet switch fabric based on said examination, and

switching the received traffic in a packet or circuit switch fabric in response to the of examination step.

28.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of directing ATM traffic to a packet switch fabric.

29.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of directing IP traffic to a packet switch fabric.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of directing traffic that is neither ATM or IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

31.   (Cancelled)

32.   (Cancelled)